Rural BPO centres

*47. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether NASSCOM has estimated that the Indian BPO sector is likely to face a shortfall of more than 2,50,000 IT professionals by the year 2012;

(b) if so, whether Government would explore expanding the rural internet kiosk project, which offers a lower cost of operation while employing IT. skilled workforce living in rural areas;

(c) whether the IIT Chennai has been working on a model rural BPO initiative; and

(d) 'i so, the number of rural BPO centres which are now operational under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) NASSCOM-McKinsey Report was prepared in 2005 regarding 'Extending India's Leadership of the Global IT and BPO Industries'. This report, *inter-alia* considers the matter of improving talent supply. Demand and supply projections have been made and it has been indicated that there is a potential shortage of 3,50,000 workers by the year 2010. It further indicates that this gap can be bridged by the following initiatives: (a) expanding the pipeline of people willing to join the industry; (b) improving the quality of the potential and current workforce; (c) better matching jobs to people so that attrition is reduced.

(b) The Government has recently approved a Scheme for providing support for establishing 100,000 broadband, Internet enabled, Common Service Centres in rural areas of the country. These Centres would be opened in the ratio of 1 CSC for every 6 Census villages in a State. The Scheme is to be implemented in a public-private partnership. The prime objective of the Common Service Centre (CSC) Scheme of the Government is to provide Government services at the doorstep of the citizen. The Service Centre Agency (SCA) and the village level intrepreneurs who are responsible for running the CSC have to make the centres sustainable by generating the bulk of their revenues from delivering private services. In this

context if the SCA finds the rural BPO a viable proposition, he would definitely look at investing in this activity as well.

(c) and (d) IIT Madras has incubated a company DesiCrew, which is working on a model for rural BPO. DesiCrew has set up twenty very small rural BPOs.

Rising land prices in Delhi

†*48. DR.MURLIMANOHARJOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of land in Delhi State have risen exorbitantly during the last two years;

(b) if so, the percentage increase that took place with regard to residential land, commercial land and industrial land; and

(c) the reasons behind the said price rise?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY); (a) and (b) Land prices have risen in Delhi during the last two years. The auction figures of Delhi Development Authority (DDA) for the residential land for the years 2004-05 to 2006-07 (upto 31.1.2007) are given below:—

(Rates in Rs. persqm.)

Zone	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07 (upto .31.1.07)	Increase (in %)
South .	53519	X	132643	148
Dwarka	X	X	175900	-
North	X	X	81348	-
West	X	X	107544	-
East	X	X	X	-
Rohini	X	- X	X	-
Narela	X	X	X	-
Central	X	X	X	-

X-No auction took place.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.